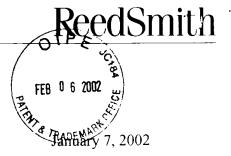
Marc J. Farrell • 717.257.3044 • mfarrell@reedsmith.com

TC 132002



Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Re:

Application No.:

Filing Date:

09/423,572

November 29, 1999

First Named Inventor:

Ralf Timmerman, et al

Title:

HEAT-SEALABLE FILTER MATERIAL WITH

BIODEGRADABLE POLYMERS

Group Art Unit:

Atty. Docket No.:

1771 01-611-US

Our Ref. No.:

861266-20068

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 5, 2001, Applicants submit the following documents in connection with the above-identified application:

- 1. an Amendment and Response to the Office Action;
- an original Associate Power of Attorney granting the undersigned the authority to 2. act with regard to this application;
- a Petition and Fee for Extension of Time Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) 3. (in duplicate);

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any papers and/or fees referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being

on January 7, 2002 with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Name: Christine C. McHale, Paralegal

Signature:

Date: January 7, 2002

213 Market Street 9th Floor P.O. Box 11844 Harrisburg, PA 17108-1844 717.234.5988 Fax 717.236.3777

Delaware New Jersey New York Pennsylvania United Kingdom Virginia Washington, DC Commissioner for Patents January 7, 2002 Page 2

- 4. a check for \$1,960.00 to cover the \$920.00 extension of time fee for three (3) months (large entity), along with a request to credit the overpayment of \$1,040.00 to Deposit Account No. 18-0582; and
- 5. a self-addressed stamped postcard, return of which is requested to acknowledge receipt of this paper, and the papers and/or fees referred to herein as transmitted, submitted or enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any additional overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0582. A duplicate of this authorization is enclosed.

Very truly yours,

REED SMITH LLP

Marc J. Farrell

Reg. No. 37,826

/ccm

Enclosures